

APR 1 1967

Approved For Release 2005/01/05 : CIA-RDP75-00149R000700490018-6

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Thant Gibes At CIA Use Of Subsidies

Washington Post Foreign Service

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y.,

March 31—An institution of higher education should be free of overt or covert political domination and "never should be allowed to degenerate into any kind of junior partnership with Government," U Thant told a convocation at the University of Michigan today.

This apparent gibe at Central Intelligence Agency subsidies as well as excessive influence exercised by Government research contracts came in a speech released here in advance of delivered at Ann Arbor, where the Secretary General received an honorary doctorate of law during 150th anniversary ceremonies.

It is the job of education, Thant asserted, to deal with the "strain in the collective subconscious of the human race which, in defiance of all common sense or prudence, tends on occasion to drive mankind toward conflict and even mutual extermination."

Much of the trouble between nations, he said, "arises from the exploitation of a variety of situations and conditions, by politicians, ideologists, and sometimes military leaders, in pursuit of power."

The answer, he said, is to be found in schools by cultivating impulses toward mutual aid, universal brotherhood and reverence for life.

Noting that the world's great religions have evolved a spirit of tolerance and live-and-let-live, Thant asked: Is it too much to hope that the political ideologies, which still claim to divide the world into hostile camps, will also in time come to a similar synthesis where their commonly held objectives and ideals prove to be more important and stronger than their differences?"

Thant observed that in a world priding itself on communications "the truth is perhaps harder to find or to pin down than ever before." Yet, he said, "tolerance, understanding and fresh thinking on national and international problems are the key to nothing less human survival."

Outside the university auditorium, some 200 bipartisan pickets paraded, Associated Press reported. Some pickets carried signs calling for the United States to get out of the United Nations. Others read "We Support U Thant's Peacemaking Efforts," and "Please Keep Trying."